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Verification of Environmental Monitoring Technologies
ANNOUNCEMENT

ETV's Advanced Monitoring Systems Center, NOAA Collaborate on Water Probe Verification Test

Two companies with multi-parameter water probes—General Oceanics of Miami, FL, and YSI Inc., of Yellow Springs, OH—are participating this month in a verification test conducted by the Advanced Monitoring Systems (AMS) Center in collaboration with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Center for Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research in Charleston, SC.

The instruments are being deployed in laboratory, freshwater, and saltwater environments near or in Charleston Harbor for a 2-1/2 month field test in which the probes will be operated continuously for periods of up to 30 days. The instruments will be tested in monitoring turbidity, chlorophyll A, nitrate, conductivity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and pH.

The objective of the test is to evaluate the performance capabilities of the probes under operating conditions that are realistic in terms of water body, depth, and duration of unattended operations, as well as in a laboratory or controlled setting. During each phase of the test, the instruments will be evaluated on accuracy, precision, linearity, and inter-unit reproducibility.

The AMS Center is managed by Battelle, a partner in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Technology Verification Program (EPA/ETV). The goal of ETV is to verify the performance characteristics of commercially ready environmental technologies, so that potential purchasers and permitters have an independent and credible assessment of the technology. The AMS Center is focused on verifying air, water, and soil monitoring technologies.

For further information about the test, please contact Jeff Myers at Battelle, 505 King Ave., Columbus, OH 43201-2693; phone 614-424-7705 or e-mail: myersjd@battelle.org.

The test engineer checks one of the multi-parameter water probe's data read-out unit. Inset are the YSI, Inc., instrument (above, left) and the General Oceanics instrument (right).